

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 YAOUND 00105 101053Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----104853 101102Z /21

P R 101030Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4204
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 0105

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EG, SO, LT, IV
SUBJ: CAMEROON: VIEWS ON THE HORN

REF: STATE 1381

1. ON JANUARY 7, IN THE ABSENCE OF PRESIDENT AHIDJO, I CALLED UPON SAMEUL EBOUA, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PRESIDENCY AND NOMINALLY IN CHARGE WHENEVER THE PRESIDENT IS NOT AVAILABLE. I EXPLAINED OUR CONCERN THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE NO PROGRESS IN THE DIRECTION OF A NEGOTIATED PEACE AND OUR INTEREST IN HAVING THE ADVICE AND COUNSEL OF THE PRESIDENT AS TO WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO END A CONFLICT SO DESTRUCTIVE OF BOTH PARTIES.

2. IN RESPONSE THE SECRETARY GENERAL EXPRESSED HIS REGRET THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS CURRENTLY VISITING THE NORTH. HE RECALLED THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE OAU THAT ITS MEDIATION COMMISSION, OF WHICH AHIDJO IS A MEMBER, HAD MET ON CHAD AND LIBYA BUT HAD DISBANDED WITHOUT DEALING WITH THE QUESTION OF SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA BECAUSE OF DENIAL OF ITS JURISDICTION. HE REITERATED THE OAU POLICY OR RESPECT FOR EXISTING NATIONAL BOUNDARIES BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW FOR SOMALIA POSSESSION OF OGADEN; THE SITUATION COMPLICATED BY ERITREAN
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CLAIMS HE SAW AS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO UNTANGLE. THE US, HE IS CERTAIN, HAS A ROLE TO PLAY--PORBABLY A VERY IMPORTANT ONE.

3. EBOUA SAID HE WOULD MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT JANUARY 9 IN GAROUA AND BRING BACK WORD AT THE END OF THAT WEEK. AHIDJO WILL NOT BE RETURNING UNTIL THE FNLLOWING WEEK.

4 COMMNT: EBOUA WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED THAT THE US SOUGHT THE
OPINION OF CAMEROON'S PRESIDENT AND WAS CORDIAL AND EXPANSIVE.
HIS COMMENTS SUGGEST AHIDJO APPRECIATES ROLE OF PEACEMAKER AND
WILL WANT TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.
SMYTHE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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